



**MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
State Fire Marshal Division**

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Policy #: INS-01 (2007)	Subject of Policy: MSFC (07) Sec. 102.1 (3) – Distinct Hazards		
Reviewed and Approved By: Jerry Rosendahl	Title: State Fire Marshal	Effective Date: 11/1/1999	Revised Date: July 10, 2007

APPLIES TO:

All Inspection Personnel, Inspection Supervisors, Code/Plans Specialists.

PURPOSE:

To provide for uniform application of state fire code provisions in buildings inspected by State Fire Marshal Division personnel.

POLICY:

RETROACTIVE FIRE CODE APPLICATION TO EXISTING BUILDINGS

The following items are considered by the State Fire Marshal to comprise the minimum fire and life safety features in existing buildings. Occupancies that lack these minimum fire and life safety provisions are considered to be distinct hazards and the conditions shall be abated. This policy is based on the 2007 Minnesota State Fire Code. [Here after referred to as MSFC (07.)]

STRUCTURAL FEATURES THAT ARE ENFORCED BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL. (Including but not limited to the following.)

- I. MEANS OF EGRESS FOR EXISTING BUILDINGS – MSFC (07) Sections 1001, 1002, 1026 and 1027
- II. INSTALLATION OF HEATING EQUIPMENT - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 603.5.
- III. INTERIOR FINISH - Code References: MSFC (07) Section 803.1; MSBC (07) Section 806.1. See SFMD Information Sheet titled, Wood Interior Finish.
- IV. INCIDENTAL (HAZARDOUS) AREA SEPARATION - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 705.1.
- V. FLOOR OPENINGS AND SHAFTS. Enclosure of interior vertical shafts. MSFC (07) Section 704.
- VI. OCCUPANCY SEPARATIONS - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 705.1
- VII. Basements exceeding 2, 500 square feet in size and do have 20 square feet of opening entirely above the adjoining ground level in each 50 lineal feet or fraction there of exterior wall on at least one side of the building:
 - Group A and used as commercial drinking and dining establishments, -
 - Group A and used as a bowling alley -
 - Group E occupancy and used for student purposes -
 - Group I purposes -

- Group R-1 and R-2 occupancy and having dwelling units or guest rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 903.6.2.

VIII. STANDPIPES - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 905.

OPERATIONAL FEATURES THAT ARE ENFORCED BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL: (Including but not limited to the following.)

- I. INSTALLATION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEMS:
 - Commercial cooking equipment and hoods - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 609.2.
 - Spray finish booths/rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 1504.4.
 - Flammable liquid use, dispensing, and mixing rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 3405.3.7.3.
 - Linen and trash chutes and terminal rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 903.2.10.2.
- II. SPRINKLER SYSTEM ADEQUACY - Proper spacing/density based on hazard - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 903.3.1.
- III. INSTALLATION OF FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS:
 - Group A, Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 907.3.1.
 - Group E Occupancies having 50 or more occupants - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 907.3.2.
 - Group I Occupancies - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 907.3.3.
 - Monitoring of sprinkler systems (New systems – 20 or more sprinklers; existing systems – 100 or more sprinklers) - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 903.4.
 - Automatic F.D. notification in Group I occupancies - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 907.3.3.2.
 - Group R Division 1 – Code Reference: MSFC (07) 907.3.4.
 - Group R Division 2 – Code Reference: MSFC (07) 907.3.5.
- IV. CONDUCTING FIRE EXIT DRILLS AND/OR STAFF TRAINING:
 - Group A Occupancies - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 405.1.
 - Group E Occupancies - Code References: Minn. Stat. § 299F.30; MSFC (07) Section 405.2.
 - Group I Occupancies used as health care facilities and detention/correctional facilities - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 405.2.
 - Group R-1 Occupancies - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 405.2.
- V. SMOKE DETECTORS REQUIRED:
 - Group R Occupancies - Code Reference: Rental property – MN Statute 299F.362 R-3 & R-4; MSFC (07) Section. 907.2.10.1.2.

MAINTENANCE FEATURES THAT ARE ENFORCED BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL: (Including but not limited to the following.)

- I. MAINTENANCE OF FIRE PROTECTION EQUIPMENT (annual maintenance) - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 901.6.1; SFMD Information Sheet titled. *System Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance.*
 - Automatic sprinkler systems
 - Fire alarm systems
 - Fire extinguishers
 - Other extinguishing systems
 - Note: 6 months for kitchen hood systems using wet chemical, dry chemical, or CO₂ systems (see MSFC (07) Section 904.11.6.4).
- II. MAINTENANCE OF FIRE DOORS/FIRE SEPARATIONS - Code References: MSFC (07) Sections 703.1.
- III. MAINTENANCE OF WATER SUPPLIES/HYDRANTS - Code References: MSFC (07) Sections 508.5.2.
- IV. STORAGE OF COMBUSTIBLE MATERIALS:
 - Minimum 2 foot clearance below ceiling - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 315.2.1. However, when more restrictive clearances between sprinkler head deflectors and storage are required by the sprinkler listing or NFPA 13, the more restrictive clearances shall apply.
 - Minimum 18 inches below sprinklers - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 315.2.1.
 - Boiler rooms, mechanical rooms, electrical rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 315.2.3.
 - Attics, under-floor, and concealed spaces - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 315.2.4.
 - Fueled equipment - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 313.
 - Christmas trees - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 806.1-806.5.
 - Rubbish within dumpster - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 304.1.
 - Decorative material - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 807.
 - Combustible material removed – State Law – 299F.18
 - Under stair storage - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 315.2.4
 - Clearance from heating appliances - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 305.1.
 - Under buildings - Code Reference: Minn. Stat. § 299F.18, MSFC (07) Section 315.3.1.
- V. STORAGE/USE OF FLAMMABLE & COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS:
 - Quantities, manner of storage - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 2703.1.1.
 - Protection for use, dispensing, mixing rooms - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 3405.3.7.
 - Spill control, secondary containment - Code Reference; MSFC (07) Sections 2704.2.1, 3404.2.8.3, 3404.2.10, 3404.4.3, 3405.3.7.5.3 and 3406.2.10
 - Control of ignition - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 2703.7.
- VI. MAINTENANCE OF EXIT FEATURES - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 1028.
- VII. ABATEMENT OF ELECTRICAL HAZARDS:

- Open boxes, exposed splices or contacts - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 605.
 - Improper use of electrical wiring or equipment - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 605.
 - Defective equipment-exposed wiring, over-fusing, frayed wiring - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 605.
 - Extension cords - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 605.5.
 - Multi-plug adapters, power taps - Code References: MSFC (07) Section 605.4 - 605.4.1.3.
 - Access to electrical panels and switchboards - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 605.3.
- VIII. ABATEMENT OF OTHER FIRE HAZARDS (smoking, open flames, etc.) - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 310.
- Cleaning of kitchen exhaust hoods - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 904.11.6.3.
 - Spray finishing - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 1503.2.6.
- IX. PREMISE IDENTIFICATION (including street signage on private property) - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 505.1.
- X. ESTABLISHMENT AND DESIGNATION OF FIRE LANES - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 503.
- XI. MAINTENANCE OF FIRE LANES - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 503
- XII. FLAME RETARDANT TREATMENTS - APPLIED AND MAINTAINED - Code Reference: MSFC (07) Section 803.4.
- XIII. STORAGE/USE OF LP-GASES
- Quantities, manner of storage, separation distances [NFPA 58 (04)]
 - Protection of storage (pressure relief, emergency shut-offs) [NFPA 58 (04)].

This policy dated July 10, 2007 supersedes all other earlier versions.